

Christianity or Cult?

By David J. Stewart

What is a "cult" by definition? ...

CULT: Adherents of an exclusive system of religious beliefs and practices.

Sad to say, Christianity to many people today is nothing more than adhering to system of beliefs and practices. Consequently, many people who "think" they are saved are still hellbound in their sins. America's churches are filled today with people who have religion without truth. They have churchianity without Christianity.

Christianity is NOT a philosophy. It is NOT a ritual. It is NOT an experience. Actor, <u>Tom Hanks</u>, claims to have had a "born again experience" as a youth. This is NOT salvation. Salvation happens when a person, who realizes that he is a guilty sinner, BELIEVES on Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, and thus becomes a child of God. Christianity is a personal relationship

with Jesus Christ as one's Savior. Salvation is a supernatural act of God in response to one's faith in Jesus Christ as Savior.

God never intended for Christianity to become a lucrative business, which is NO Christianity at all. America leads the way in exploiting Christianity to make a buck. People are tired of being pressured to give more money. Wouldn't it be a wonderful thing if preachers would equally pressure people to study the Word of God? Wouldn't it be a terrific thing if preachers would equally warn people concerning the coming judgment of Hell, Fire and Damnation upon the unsaved? America would be salvaged.

Cult Churches

Many churches today operate by a system of religious beliefs; while rejecting the plain teachings of God's Word. This is a cult. Jesus condemned such cults in Mark 7:9, "And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition." Thus, the Roman Catholic Church is the biggest CULT in the world today. The Vatican has been fabricating manmade traditions for centuries, which have absolutely no basis in the Word of God. In 1950, Pope Pius XII made THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY official Catholic dogma (i.e., doctrine). No such teaching is found in the Catholic Douay Bible. It's not found in the King James Bible either. In fact, it's not found in ANY Bible. I am amazed that so many people blindly follow the teachings their Catholic priest, without ever questioning if such teachings are Biblical. Please read, Immaculate Deception and Proof that Catholic's Worship Mary.

Cult Churchgoers

We read in Hebrews 4:1-2, "Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it." This is one of the saddest Scripture passages in the Bible. Many of the Jews who wandered in the Wilderness heard Moses preach the Gospel of the coming Messiah; but it was nothing more than religious beliefs to them. They died and went to Hell in their unbelief.

The same is true today of so many people, who attend church regularly, and hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ preached; but it's nothing more than a religious philosophy to them...

"Having **a form of godliness**, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away" (2nd Timothy 3:5).

That "power" is the GOSPEL...

"For I am not ashamed of **the gospel of Christ**: for **it is the power of God unto salvation** to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek" (Romans 1:16).

Churches are filled today with imposters, who profess to be *Christian*; but they are only playing a game of church. They have never been saved.

I met a man in Hawaii, a Hawaiian, who talked about God and love. He *appeared* to be a Christian from the way he was talking and smiling; but when I gave him a Gospel tract which read... "You Need HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS," he became offended by the contents. Whereas the Bible states that God created mankind in His own image; many people today have recreated god in their own sinful human image. The man whom I had spoken with in Hawaii had "a form of godliness" as 2nd Timothy 3:5 mentions; but He was offended by the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Tragically, Christianity is nothing more than a cult to many people, because the preaching of the Gospel to them is nothing more than a religious philosophy. I am not saying that Christianity is a cult. Not at all. I am saying that many people make Christianity a cult in their own mind. This is why we hear people saying, "I used to be a Christian." That is impossible. The second birth (i.e., the spiritual birth) is as irreversible as is the first birth (i.e., the physical birth). Many people join a church and adhere superficially to a few Biblical principles; but they never actually become a born-again Christian.

No one refers to the Bible more than the unsaved heathens. In nearly every debate with lost sinners they say, "But didn't Jesus say..." It is ironic that unsaved people, who are hellbound, seem to know so much about the Bible. The truth is that they

are only vaguely familiar with the Bible, and cannot understand it's Truths because they have not the Holy Spirit of God (1st Corinthians 2:14-17).	
Ye Must Be Born Again! You Need HIS Righteousnes	<u>s!</u>